

COUNTY REPORT

Weights Division Helps To Protect the Public

By BURTON W. CHACE
County Supervisor

Chances are good that sometime today you unknowingly benefited from one of the least-recognized county services.

If you filled your car's gas tank, bought some vegetables or purchased a tube of lipstick, the County Department of Weights and Measures made certain you received your money's worth.

This department is one of the least-publicized, yet it provides a service which touches the life of every individual in the county daily. As chairman of this department, I won approval of a resolution proclaiming March 1-7 as Weights and Measures Week to call the public's attention to the outstanding service.

THIS MAY be one of the biggest bargains taxpayers receive for their tax dollar. For less than 10 cents per person, each resident receives substantial

protection against short-weight or short-measure artists.

Providing such protection is a mammoth job. In Los Angeles County, there are more than 200,000 commercial weighing and measuring devices used daily in commodity transactions. And, there are more than 7 1/2 billion packaged commodities purchased and consumed annually.

Because of this volume, a shortage amounting to only a fraction of a penny on certain items can total millions of dollars of short weight or short measure over a year's time.

THE PRIMARY responsibility of this department is to guarantee that equity prevails in all commercial transactions involving determination of quantity. The delivery of full measure through elimination of fraud, misrepresentation, carelessness or ignorance of the

The need for such protection has been demonstrated time and time again. It seems there always be those who will defraud the public through inaccurate measuring devices.

No matter what the reason, the customer is the one who is deprived of fair quantities unless this department maintains its high level of service.

RABIES control has been so effective in Los Angeles County

that last year only one domesticated pet contracted the disease.

The rabid animal was a cat, which, while found in Manhattan Beach, had been imported from the East Coast.

The almost perfect record to prevent rabies among domesticated pets can be traced to the County Health Department's two-fold program. It works closely with the Southern California Veterinary Association, private veterinarians, and public agencies to encourage in-

oculations of all pets — particularly dogs and cats.

Secondly, it maintains public health investigators who quarantine all animals which may carry rabies.

Even with these precautionary measures, there is still one major rabies problem — wild animals such as skunks, bats and foxes sometimes are handled by youngsters or their parents. Since these animals have not been inoculated, the incidence of rabies in these wild pets usually is high.

Proposition 1-A Costs Revealed

By PHILIP E. WATSON
County Assessor

Proposition 1-A was created by the legislature in the name of "property tax relief." It was voted in by citizens who thought they were voting for tax relief. Now people are staggered by the size of what it will cost them in new tax dollars to receive a few dollars back.

Assessors throughout the state must suddenly expand their operations to include the task of processing the applications of homeowners seeking property tax relief. It is estimated that the statewide cost of administering Proposition 1-A will exceed three million dollars!

Here in Los Angeles County the task of administering Proposition 1-A looms as a mammoth new program for our office. In addition to our ongoing, county-wide appraisal program, we are now gearing up to send out

1,300,000 preprinted 1969 homeowner exemption forms, the same number of \$70 refund applications for 1968, and process the returns. Although they'll be mailed together, on their return they must be processed separately. But the task doesn't end there.

PROPOSITION 1-A creates more work and cost by its tax exemption of 15 per cent of business inventories. Although the computer will figure the exemption, it cannot do so until our deputies have verified that inventory is properly and separately reported from supplies and equipment — a separation not required in the past.

Based on the experience of other states that have exempted inventories, we can also anticipate lengthy arguments and widespread litigation over what is and is not inventory. The inventory exemption is worth thousands of dollars — rather than \$70 — to major retailers and manufacturers, so any legal expenses (which are also deductible against income tax as a business expense) are well worth it to the taxpayer involved. But the cost of defending these lawsuits will be another charge against all property taxpayers.

These are only the major, observable elements of administering Proposition 1-A. The extra appraisal and clerical workers needed can be thought of in terms of dollars — taxpayers' dollars. Considering only estimated salaries, service and supplies — and not including the cost of the added space requirements — the assessor's budget will have to increase about \$1,682,623. After a state refund of \$502,500 to partly offset application costs, Los Angeles County will still be "out" \$1,180,000.

SOME HAVE asked if this is a one-year-only increase. No, it is not. Although this is the only time the assessor will have to process applications for two years at once, it is also the only year that he is scheduled to receive any state revenue for this project. Therefore, the estimated costs for 1969-70 still exceed one million dollars.

Seeing these costs, we can only wonder at the total dollar loss to the total community. We cannot speculate now on assessed values or on tax rates. Nevertheless, the record shows that increased exemptions are consistently reflected in increased, locally-determined tax rates. And such increased rates will at present hit hardest at the homeowner.

The cost of administering Proposition 1-A is ridiculously disproportionate to the token relief it provides to those it was presumably designed for — the homeowner. And since Proposition 1-A provides no curb on the demands of the property tax, it will inevitably result in no relief at all.

The over-taxed property owners deserve better. That is what Henry MacArthur, Sacramento political writer, meant when he recently called Proposition 1-A, "one of the most stupendous hoaxes ever dished out by the legislature to its constituents, the taxpayers of California!"

Dividend Noted

Pacific Telephone has announced earnings of \$1.33 for each common share of stock for 1968, compared to \$1.26 in 1967. Net income was \$171,600,000 in 1968 and \$163,465,000 in 1967.

Nursing Students Get Caps

Forty-three registered nursing students at Los Angeles Harbor College have received their caps signifying the completion of their first semester of training.

Mrs. Barbara Wright, chairman of the Nursing Division, conducted the ceremony assisted by instructors Ruth Clarke, Margareta Reske, and Ruby Rogers.

Dr. Jerold Turner, assistant medical director of Harbor General Hospital, was the principal speaker.

The students have ahead of them three more semesters of instruction and training at Harbor College, Harbor General Hospital, San Pedro Community Hospital, and Kaiser Hospital.

Local students capped were: Virginia Bruce, Lillian Cabus, Ruth Davis, and Luetta Pelke, Wilmington; Susan Andrews, Phillip Cowan, Sandra Gonsales, Toni Harris, Ynona Paoli, Shirley Wareing, Torrance; Linda Barry, Carla Letherer, Judy Lovelady, Diane Schroeder, Harbor City; Jean Bristol, Eleanor Kuehn, Carson; and Jamie Grant, Lomita.

New Dean Appointed By College

Robert E. Taving has been named to the position of assistant dean of admissions and guidance at Los Angeles Harbor College, it was announced today by Dr. Wendell C. Black, college president.

Taving replaces William H. McMasters who retired Feb. 7. A graduate of Compton High School and the University of Southern California, Taving has been with the Los Angeles school system for 23 years.

He began his teaching career at San Pedro High School where he was baseball, football and basketball coach. He was athletic director at Los Angeles Trade-Technical College for seven years before joining the Harbor faculty as a coach and counselor in 1964.

He is a resident of Rolling Hills Estates.

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AVOCADOS 10¢ EA. LARGE SIZE BUTTERY RICH

TOMATOES 4 LBS. \$1. RED RIPE • LARGE SIZE

ASPARAGUS 39¢ LB. FIRM • PLUMP • TENDER

ANGEL CITY Snail Pellets 2 1/2-LB. BOX 43¢

THESE PRODUCE PRICES EFFECTIVE THURSDAY through WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27 through MARCH 5

TOTAL DISCOUNTS EVERY DAY

DELUXE • FOR DOGS OR CATS PULVEX Flea Collar 1 1/2 \$1.49

4.5-oz. ANTI-PERSPIRANT SPRAY POWDER COMMAND TANTANIAN LINE 1 1/2 \$1.99

BOTTLE OF 14 GERITOL TABLETS 1 1/2 \$1.95

4-OUNCE SPRAY CAN • ANTI-PERSPIRANT INCLUDES 1/2 OFF BAN DEODORANT 1 1/2 \$1.64

PACK OF 45 SHEER STRIPS • LARGE BAND-AID 81¢ 66¢

PACK OF 45 PLASTIC STRIPS COLGATE '100' 75¢ 55¢

ANCHOR HOOKING TUMBLERS 9¢ EACH

ANCHOR HOOKING • 86-OZ. CAPACITY GLASS PITCHER 98¢ 68¢

SPONGE MOP REFILL 3 1/2 \$3.14

10" DIAMETER • TRIPLE CLAD Teflon II Fry Pan 2 1/2 \$1.99

DUNCAN • ASSORTED COLORS TRICKSTER YO-YOS 59¢ 54¢

INFERIOR MODEL YO-YOS \$1.50

5-LB. BAG C&N Granulated Sugar 59¢ 58¢

DOUBLE DISCOUNT COUPON SAVE 5¢ WITH THIS COUPON ONE ONLY

1-LB. CAN • ALL GRINDS HILLS BROS. COFFEE 64¢

OUR PRICE WITHOUT COUPON 69¢ SOME STORES CHARGE 71¢ One Coupon Per Family • Adults Only

COUPON GOOD THRU MAR. 5

2-LB. CAN • REGULAR OR BLEND HILLS BROS. COFFEE 1 1/2 \$1.37

HILLS BROS. • 16 OUNCE JAR INSTANT COFFEE 1 1/2 \$1.19

ALPHA BETA Best for Less!

REDEEM YOUR FOOD STAMPS IN ANY LOS ANGELES COUNTY ALPHA BETA

Your Nearby Alpha Beta Markets Are Located at

TORRANCE—2720 Cabrillo Ave. at Sepulveda
1130 190th St. at Anza
DOMINGUEZ HILLS/CARSON—1970 St. at Avalon
REDONDO—1880 S. Pacific Coast Hwy.
LONG BEACH—1500 S. Willow at Carson

TOTAL DISCOUNTS EVERY DAY

3 1/2 OUNCE PACKAGE BUDDIG SLICED BEEF 69¢ 63¢

ALPHA BETA • WISCONSIN SHARP CHEDDAR CHEESE 1 1/2 \$1.98

IMPORTED • 4 OUNCE PACKAGE ALPHABET SLICED HAM 50¢

UNIVERSAL • INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED SLICED CHEESE 12-OZ. 69¢ 64¢

ALPHA BETA • 8-OZ. PACKAGE • 30% VALUE SLICED COOKED SALAMI 36¢

SLICED • 4 OUNCE PACKAGE SWIFT'S Lunch Meat 53¢ 49¢

SMOKEY TREASURES PEPPERONN'S • 1-LB. CANNED MARGARINE 38¢ 38¢

ROCK • 7 OUNCE CAN WHIP O' TOPPING 43¢ 39¢

ALL MEAT BOLOGNA 59¢

1/2 PINT CARTON I'M O DRESSING 23¢ 21¢

REGULAR SIZE BAR • ASSORTED COLORS GAMAY COMPLEXION SOAP 18¢ 17¢

LARGE SIZE IVORY BAR SOAP 19¢ 18¢

PACKAGE OF 4 BARS PERSONAL IVORY 29¢ 28¢

3-OZ. PACKAGE Nabisco Team Flakes 39¢ 36¢

SCHILLING'S • 4 OZ. SIZE BLACK PEPPER 49¢ 35¢

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LONG BEACH—1500 S. Willow at Carson

TOTAL DISCOUNTS EVERY DAY

PACK OF 10 GLAD TRASH BAGS 79¢ 69¢

ASSORTED COLORS AND WHITE BOX OF 200 KLEENEX TISSUE 29¢ 24¢

GIANT BOWL • 340 SHEETS VIVA TOWELS 35¢ 31¢

BATH SIZE • REGULAR • PINK • WHITE SAFEGUARD DEODORANT BAR SOAP 22¢ 20¢

GIANT SIZE PKG THE ENERGIZED BORATEEM 59¢

32 OUNCE BOTTLE FINAL TOUCH FABRIC SOFTENER 89¢ 79¢

REGULAR SIZE • PINK OR AQUA PHASE III BAR SOAP 19¢ 18¢

NEW! GIANT SIZE PACKAGE AXION FOR PRE-SOAKING LAUNDRY 65¢

32-OZ. CAN • MEDIUM OR HEAVY PERFORM SPRAY STARCH 59¢ 39¢

8-OZ. CAN • LAUNDRY AID SPRAY 'N' WASH 98¢ 81¢

GIANT BOTTLE GOLD WATER ALL 79¢ 75¢

GIANT SIZE PACKAGE INCLUDES 1/2 OZ. CRYSTAL GOLD WATER ALL 81¢ 64¢

FLORIST QUALITY FLOWERS at DISCOUNT PRICES

COLORFUL • FRAGRANT HYACINTHS IN A 4-INCH POT 68¢

TOTAL DISCOUNTS EVERY DAY

CRISPER • QUANT FAR FRESH CRISPS 59¢ 39¢

16 OUNCE BOTTLE WESSON BUTTERY OIL 39¢ 33¢

4 BATH SIZE BARS FOR THE PRICE OF THREE ASSORTED COLORS AND WHITE LUX BAR SOAP 33¢

18-OZ. JAR SMOOTH OR CRUNCHY JIF PEANUT BUTTER 69¢ 55¢

8-OZ. JAR P-Nut Butter & Jelly 69¢ 57¢

3 SISTERS TINY • 203 CAN WHOLE CARROTS 29¢ 27¢

6-OZ. PACKAGE • ALL VARIETIES NESTLES MORSELS 27¢ 25¢

5-LB. BAG MASA HARINA 72¢ 69¢

VITA PAK • 1/2 GALLON LOW CALORIE FRUIT PUNCH 49¢ 45¢

VITA PAK • 32-OZ. BOTTLE GRAPE FRUIT JUICE 45¢ 39¢

INCLUDES FREE SHELL SHAPED PLASTIC BRISTLE BATH BRUSH

PINK OR WHITE DOVE BAR SOAP 88¢

SOME STORES CHARGE 92¢

GERBER STRAINED BABY FOOD 11¢ 11¢

LARGE SIZE REGULAR OR MINT CREST TOOTH PASTE 55¢

SOME STORES CHARGE 65¢

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED OR YOUR MONEY REFUNDED

THE QUALITY LEADER